

SUPPLEMENT TO COMMERCE REPORTS



DAILY CONSULAR AND TRADE REPORTS
ISSUED BY THE BUREAU OF FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC COMMERCE
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, WASHINGTON, D. C.



Annual Series

No. 25a

February 25, 1919

CUBA. CIENFUEGOS.

By Consul Charles S. Winans.

The Cienfuegos consular district comprises the entire Province of Santa Clara, an area of 8,250 square miles, about equal to the State of Massachusetts. It contains the important ports of Cienfuegos and Trinidad on the south coast, and Caibarien and Sagua la Grande on the north coast of the island. Cienfuegos is the largest city in the Province, and the second in size in the Republic, having a population of about 48,000, whereas the inhabitants of the municipal district number more than 98,000. It is situated on one of the best land-locked harbors in the world, with a coast line of 45 miles.

The Province of Santa Clara has many varieties of soil, including the black and red cane land (the latter also used for growing tobacco) and the grayish sandy soil in the Manicaragua Valley, where a fine grade of tobacco is grown. Coffee is successfully grown in the Trinidad district, and in the interior of the Province American colonists have engaged in the growing of citrus fruits and garden truck.

Owing to its rich pastures, Santa Clara is one of the leading cattle-raising districts on the island, although the entire product is used for home consumption. There are tracts of valuable timberland, and in the mountainous country near Manicaragua progress in the exploitation of its mineral wealth, sulphur ore, is being made.

Importance of Sugar Crop—Tobacco Production.

Manufacture of sugar and its by-product, molasses, is the only important industry in this consular district. The prosperity of nearly the entire population depends directly upon the output of and the market for sugar. Thus the present high prices for this commodity have brought about an era of prosperity. Even the scarcity of labor, which has obliged various sugar mills in this Province to curtail their 1917 production, is one of the results of the present prosperous condition. This shortage of labor is a rather serious problem, especially as many mills are desirous of increasing their capacities in order to meet the rising demand for sugar. Laborers in the cane fields have been receiving unprecedented wages, and an effort is being made to import men from Haiti and Santo Domingo to supplement the Spanish laborers who come to Cuba every year for the grinding season.

The 68 active sugar mills in Santa Clara produced 6,746,634 bags of sugar, or approximately 963,520 tons, during the year 1917. This Province is the largest producer of sugar on the island of Cuba, supplying nearly one-third of the entire crop.

The most important tobacco-growing district in the Province is Manicaragua. The Manicaragua leaf is famous for its fine aroma, flexibility, and excellent burning qualities, which permit an advantageous mixing with a leaf of inferior quality. The 1917-18 crop is stated to be the best in 10 years, amounting to nearly 10,000 bales, an increase of about 3,000 bales over the 1916-17 crop. The quality of the tobacco is also reported to be far superior to that of the previous year.

Tobacco produced in this district is shipped through the port of Habana, therefore not figuring in the export returns of this consulate.

Growth of Foreign Commerce.

The following table shows the imports and exports by countries for the port of Cienfuegos during the years 1914, 1915, 1916, and 1917; the outstanding feature is the tremendous increase of exports, which have more than doubled since 1914:

Countries.	1914	1915	1916	1917
IMPORTS FROM.				
United States.....	\$3,755,961	\$4,790,343	\$7,899,183	\$8,067,723
Austria.....	13,166	1,899		
Belgium.....	19,977	1,190		
France.....	74,015	42,274	34,451	54,551
Germany.....	270,852	35,243		
Denmark.....	11,651	23,930	32,178	17,092
Italy.....	3,174	5,911	4,238	6,126
Netherlands.....	60,423	78,722	15,640	10,894
Spain.....	336,722	175,753	507,992	530,320
Norway.....	32,073	26,612	1,524	1,279
United Kingdom.....	657,579	876,980	606,127	500,806
Canada.....	100,965	51,985	42,084	18,669
Sweden.....		441	4,126	53,949
Switzerland.....	114			6,682
Mexico.....	897	12,223	31,480	146,218
Porto Rico.....	85,979	121,129	108,110	216,683
Argentina.....	201,577	154,864	180,404	92,504
Uruguay.....	149,221	82,804	119,244	
India.....	604,798	1,265,911	1,526,459	992,030
China.....	348	13,385	486,386	607,070
Portugal.....	313			
Japan.....	1,846	19,208	33,388	113,552
Ceylon.....		6		
Arabia.....		50	138	
Siam.....		5,230	283,938	760,855
Venezuela.....		4,053	326	
Brazil.....		5,395	2,680	1,831
Peru.....		150		
Haiti.....			1,290	
Guatemala.....			702	1,499
Honduras.....			4,500	
Chile.....				9,185
Colombia.....				39,103
Total.....	6,381,651	8,086,751	11,926,588	12,248,621
EXPORTS TO.				
United States.....	15,864,778	23,320,672	22,023,693	19,553,076
Belgium.....	176,680			641,046
France.....			3,065,228	
Germany.....	23,929			
Italy.....				643,346
Netherlands.....	48,050			
United Kingdom.....	1,314,092	6,437,530	8,418,298	18,424,061
Canada.....		93,230		
Total.....	17,421,529	29,851,432	33,507,219	39,261,532

Import Trade in 1917.

Imports into all the ports of this consular district during the year 1917 amounted to \$22,744,920, as compared with \$20,937,212 during the year 1916. It is estimated that the United States supplied about

66 per cent of the imports. The principal commodities were, in the order named, foodstuffs (cereals, flour, meat, lard, and edible oils), cotton manufactures, boots and shoes, iron and steel manufactures, linen manufactures (especially sugar sacks), machinery (mostly for sugar mills), coal, and lumber.

The figures given for 1917 do not represent the total value of imports received into this consular district, but solely those that came through the ports. Quite a considerable amount of goods was received via Habana, the bulk consisting of foodstuffs and machinery for sugar mills.

Owing to the increased purchasing power of the population of this district, the total amount of imports would have been much larger had it not been for the lack of transportation facilities and the numerous export restrictions which the war has made necessary in the various belligerent countries.

Leading Articles Received at Cienfuegos.

The following table shows the imports into the port of Cienfuegos during the years 1916 and 1917, giving the value and quantity of the goods received:

Articles.	1916		1917	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Agricultural implements, not machinery.....		\$39,370		\$39,663
Amber, black.....				5,871
Apparatus.....		6,228		4,155
Apparel and other manufactures of wool..... pounds.	54,465	19,401	13,622	16,050
Asphalt..... do.	135,032	2,736		
Beans..... bushels.		112,871	39,970	238,647
Books and other printed matter.....		4,816		3,183
Boots and shoes..... pairs.	810,035	974,687	716,045	960,761
Butter..... pounds.	77,040	34,432	61,948	33,416
Calcium carbide..... do.	250,522	37,749	506,811	26,826
Candles, wax..... do.	38,310	3,990	82,351	14,735
Cars, carriages, and vehicles:				
Railroad cars.....		4,061		332
Carriages and carts.....		41,020		319
Cars, street.....		3,965		73,776
Wagons, vehicles, etc. (including automobiles).....		98,229		113,935
Carts, etc.....		8,316		3,338
Accessories for automobiles.....				4,155
Cattle, not for breeding purposes..... number.	1,539	86,916	3	159
Celluloid.....		1,755		2,821
Cement.....		100,043		99,983
Cheese..... pounds.	20,159	4,021		
Chemical manufactures and products:				
Acids..... do.	1,504,952	31,148	428,831	34,598
Fertilizers..... do.	2,010,269	913,759	6,947	3,546
Oxides..... do.	374,519	14,248	255,154	19,181
Quinine..... do.			510	6,007
Vegetable compounds, n. e. s.....		22,355		28,048
Other.....		886		7,573
Clocks and watches.....		3,076		2,699
Coal:				
Anthracite..... tons.	850	3,018	525	3,334
Bituminous..... do.	79,064	299,873	72,827	473,581
Coke..... do.			1,151	12,412
Coffee..... pounds.			3,488,949	210,555
Confectionery, except chocolate..... do.	36,821	3,847	18,421	2,031
Cork manufactures..... do.			21,241	2,267
Corn, grain, etc.:				
Rice..... do.	47,626,713	1,720,061	35,389,949	1,688,014
Oats..... do.	963,640	18,034	680,034	14,693
Maize..... do.	14,189,967	291,419	6,353,650	160,302
Hay, fodder, etc.....		48,451		28,815
Maize meal.....		17,737		15,028
Wheat flour.....		590,257		797,896
Farinaceous products..... pounds.	138,516	7,377	40,934	1,875
Cotton and manufactures:				
Raw..... do.	15,371	739	3,680	461
Thread..... do.	5,330	1,261	246	113

Articles.	1916		1917	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Cotton and manufactures—Continued.				
Piece goods.....		\$590,276		\$651,986
Knit goods.....				385,963
Lace.....		15,568		188,667
Clothing.....		1,555		8,23
Trimmings.....		334		39,809
Other.....		23,668		35,947
Cutlery.....		4,041		920
Earthen, stone, and china ware:				
Tiles.....		2,135		14,244
Vitrified pipes.....		2,184		8,550
Crockery.....		14,631		10,058
Porcelain.....		1,043		497
Other earthenware.....		18,181		3,785
Fans.....		939		235
Fertilizers..... tons.....	5	401	12	1,106
Fish:				
Cod..... pounds.....	411,652	31,250	152,808	16,402
Sardines, etc..... do.....	77,739	6,417	90,992	10,631
Shellfish..... do.....	10,078	1,578	9,270	1,649
Fruit:				
Dried..... do.....	71,457	4,918	25,323	3,525
Canned..... do.....	328,157	21,258	341,341	22,735
Glass manufactures.....		17,390		9,589
Glue..... pounds.....	6,315	1,188	722	232
Greases, animal:				
Glycerin.....		6,428		10,052
Other.....				21,723
Gum, resin..... pounds.....	449,961	1,447	124,458	2,832
Gypsum.....		5,269		3,602
Hardware.....		9,590		30,521
Hats.....				9,815
Hemp, flax, and ramie.....		5,553		5,227
Lard..... pounds.....	6,714,511	730,941	6,001,545	861,253
Leather and manufactures:				
Dressed.....		7,663		18,183
Manufactures, except boots and shoes.....		29,874		19,876
Linen and manufactures:				
Fabrics.....		47,415		52,471
Trimmings.....		797		2,223
Clothing.....		24		439
Sugar bags.....		1,243,145		792,678
Cordage..... pounds.....	109,540	34,414	66,381	14,921
Other.....		2,050		460
Machines and machinery:				
Sugar making.....		648,789		431,801
Agricultural.....		46,284		163
Electrical.....		18,335		14,020
Parts, etc.....		174,898		198,770
Sewing.....		38,036		26,898
Meats:				
Pork, salted..... pounds.....	909,228	119,825	1,176,179	226,885
Beef, salted..... do.....	761,048	121,652		
Hams..... do.....	671,931	142,929	405,566	104,387
Other.....		7,710		9,561
Metals and ores:				
Copper alloys and manufactures				
Iron and steel—		50,170		43,345
Cast-iron manufactures..... pounds.....	1,076,055	90,072	138,219	9,202
Sheets, rolled..... do.....	695,336	119,362	518,508	63,457
Bars..... do.....			632,698	47,573
Wires and cables..... do.....	458,075	37,290	370,112	29,345
Barbed wire..... do.....	1,795,963	67,743	861,450	35,416
Nails..... do.....	84,376	3,340		
Pipes..... do.....	2,441,639	88,025	2,069,680	96,057
In pieces..... do.....	662,479	24,619		
Other..... do.....	8,817,663	641,777	14,740,196	770,462
Tin manufactures..... do.....	11,026	2,604	3,782	1,203
Other metals.....		2,097		2,656
Milk, condensed..... pounds.....	4,231	223	432,491	20,225
Musical instruments:				
Pianos and organs..... number.....	7	1,739	1	225
Other.....		667		582
Oils:				
Animal..... gallons.....	112,725	14,923	14,360	5,474
Cottonseed..... do.....	5,594	4,426	35,690	44,096
Olive..... do.....	123,836	81,271	100,850	99,683
Petroleum—				
Crude..... do.....	18,633	3,643	111,312	21,520
Refined..... do.....	39,596	3,438	17,894	2,579
Benzine..... do.....	10,906	2,382	11,501	2,659
Other refined..... do.....	262,752	69,694	264,626	71,427

Articles.	1916		1917	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Oils—Continued.				
Vegetable.....do.....	29,643	\$16,717	13,771	\$11,036
For soap manufacture.....do.....	6,649	2,000		
Oilecloth.....do.....		6,428		1,263
Onions.....pounds.....	378,653	20,976	393,798	9,282
Paints:				
Mineral.....do.....	421,583	46,191	398,840	50,794
Varnish.....gallons.....	2,015	1,172	1,313	1,263
Other.....pounds.....	4,077	2,446	14,438	2,013
Paper and manufactures:				
Printing or writing.....pounds.....	3,056	763	13,455	1,543
Pasteboard boxes.....do.....	56,830	1,045	18,495	967
Other articles of pasteboard.....do.....	15,701	3,439	28,881	1,439
Other.....do.....	129,799	26,076	307,316	27,214
Peas.....do.....		13,744		72,203
Perfumery.....do.....		14,175		11,611
Plated and gilt ware.....do.....		4,629		9,698
Potatoes.....do.....		55,720		23,897
Rubber manufactures.....do.....		7,682		8,037
Salt:				
In grains.....pounds.....	3,825,081	21,118	3,243,481	13,676
Other.....do.....	51,608	2,616	2,377,169	18,633
Silk manufactures:				
Piece goods.....do.....		3,965		1,157
Other.....do.....		3,772		1,552
Soap and soap stock:				
Toilet.....do.....		1,795		1,070
In bars.....pounds.....	537,852	25,061	513,390	25,773
Other soap.....do.....		4,782		29,158
Grease for manufacture of.....pounds.....	725,720	45,474	2,992,704	179,303
Stone.....do.....		2,333		1,093
Sugar, refined.....pounds.....	93,596	5,252		
Toys and games.....do.....		1,745		6,796
Tobacco, plug and twist.....pounds.....	14,820	7,119	18,383	11,033
Turpentine.....gallons.....	2,945	983		
Vegetables, prepared or preserved.....do.....		24,873		14,908
Vessels, steam.....tons.....	357	12,100		
Walking sticks, etc.....do.....		6,435		9,269
Waterproof cloth.....do.....		11,918		462
Wines and liquors:				
Wines—				
Still.....do.....		107,093		67,348
Sparkling.....do.....		1,495		31,480
Liquor and cordials.....do.....		2,271		3,360
Wood:				
Common pine, not dressed.....do.....		184,567		178,128
Pulp.....pounds.....			33,765	1,745
Other.....do.....		8,816		121,478
Wood manufactures:				
Furniture.....do.....		77,026		98,839
Furniture, used.....do.....		465		40
Boxes.....do.....		20,982		40,477
Barrels.....do.....		7,758		13,663
All other articles.....do.....		39,326		349,353
Total.....do.....		11,926,588		12,248,621

Sugar Exports—Shipping to United States.

Practically the entire amount of exports consisted of shipments of sugar and molasses. The 25 sugar mills which ship their product through the port of Cienfuegos produced in 1917 about 3,000,000 bags of sugar of 325 pounds each. The value of sugar exported to the United States from this consular district amounted to \$17,989,662, and of molasses \$2,021,104, the total showing a decrease as compared with the 1916 figures. However, this is offset by the exports to Great Britain, which increased from \$8,418,298 in 1916 to \$18,424,064 in 1917, and consisted almost entirely of shipments of sugar and molasses.

During the year 1917, 278 vessels cleared from the port of Cienfuegos for the United States. Of these, 111 were American, 57 British, 39 Danish, 4 Dutch, 1 Grecian, 2 Honduran, 1 Japanese, 2

Mexican, 54 Norwegian, 6 Spanish, and 1 Swedish. Their destinations were as follows:

Baltimore, Md	4	Moss Point, Miss	1
Bocagrande, Fla	1	New Orleans, La	41
Boston, Mass	7	Newport News, Va	7
Canal Zone	2	New York, N. Y	64
Chester, Pa	1	Norfolk, Va	58
Delaware Breakwater	3	Pensacola, Fla	2
Galveston, Tex	4	Philadelphia, Pa	13
Gulfport, Miss	2	St. Andrews, Fla	1
Hampton Roads, Va	1	Tampa, Fla	6
Jacksonville, Fla	2	Sabine Pass, Tex	2
Mobile, Ala	7	Other ports	49

Road Construction.

During the year 1917 much progress was made in the paving of the streets of Cienfuegos. The road which leads from Cienfuegos to Cumanayagua, about 20 miles distant, and which also connects Cienfuegos with the villages of Caonao and Guas, has been repaired, as has the road which connects Cienfuegos with Manacas, Arriza, Limones, and Rodas, a distance of 23 miles, thus opening up a large area of farm land.

The Cienfuegos, Palmira & Cruces Electric Railway & Power Co. completed in 1917 the extension of its lines from Caonao to Palmira, $7\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Cienfuegos. Work on the extension from Palmira to Cruces, about 13 miles from Palmira, and on that to Manicaragua, 28 miles from Cienfuegos, is progressing. This last line will be of particular value, as it will provide transportation for the sulphur ore from the Carlota Mines, located between Manicaragua and Cumanayagua.

Market for American Goods.

From the American point of view, one of the encouraging features of the import trade of this consular district during the year 1917 was the growing demand for American manufactures. Foreign goods, especially German goods, are gradually being replaced by American products. This is very noticeable in such lines as cutlery, hardware, stationery, electrical supplies, toys, novelties, textiles, and notions. There is clearly no prejudice against American goods in this district; the more favorable credits, the lower prices, and the manifest desire on the part of German manufacturers to cater to every whim of the Cuban importer were the reasons German products formerly found a more ready sale in this market.

American manufacturers should be able to retain the market which the war has given them, as exporters have apparently taken more pains to study the market of this district, and the establishing of foreign branches of American banking institutions will greatly aid the question of extended credits. The advantages of low German prices is no longer so marked, for although wages in Germany will probably not retain the present abnormal height after the war, it seems safe to assume that they will not go back to their low pre-war level.



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